

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DPW-01 OMB-01 IO-13 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6983

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 16270

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON PINS MILI VS

SUBJ: LTG MINH MEETS WITH PRESIDENT THIEU TO PLAN MR 3 RICE
CONTROL

HEREWITH REPEAT OF BIEN HOA MESSAGE 480 FOR YOUR ACTION/INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BIEN HOA 0480

1. MR 3 CG LTG MINH, MEETING TODAY (SEPTEMBER 7) WITH PRESIDENT THIEU, WILL DISCUSS DETAILS OF RICE CONTROL PLAN FOR MR 3. MINH WILL TELL PRESIDENT THAT, EVEN THOUGH TRADE WITH THE ENEMY HAS BEEN PROHIBITED PREVIOUSLY, SUPPLIES CAPTURED BY ARVN PROVE THAT VC ARE STILL ABLE TO BUY FOOD AND OTHER NECESSITIES IN GVN AREAS. SPECIAL EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO DETERMINE HECTARAGE UNDER CULTIVATION AND PROBABLY PRODUCTION SO THAT GVN CAN DENY RICE TO ENEMY FROM HARVEST THROUGH MILLING TO STORAGE AND EVENTUAL SALE OF RICE.

2. TROOPS WILL PROTECT PEOPLE IN THE FIELD AT HARVEST TIME, WILL GUARD RICE AS IT GOES TO RICE MILLS, WILL BE STATIONED AT RICE MILLS, PROVINCE, DISTRICT, AND VILLAGE WAREHOUSES, AND
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WILL KEEP EYE ON RICE MERCHANTS AS WELL. ALL TRANSPORT OF RICE

WILL BE STRICTLY CONTROLLED. SPECIAL ATTENTION WILL BE PAID TO APPREHENDING MERCHANTS WHO DEAL WITH OTHER SIDE AND VC CADRE WHO ENTER GVN AREAS TO BUY FOR THEIR UNITS. SPECULATION AND MARKETING IN RICE WILL BE SUPPRESSED BY REWARDING INFORMERS WITH PERCENTAGE OF CAPTURED STOCKS PLUS FINES COLLECTED.

3. CULTIVATED AREAS IN PRG ZONES ARE TO BE REPORTED AND EITHER DESTROYED OR HARVEST CAPTURED, IF POSSIBLE.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MORE COMPRESHENSIVE THAN PREVIOUSLY, NEW RICE CONTROL PLAN BASICALLY FOLLOWS LINES OF RICE CONTROL PLANS USED LAST SEVERAL YEARS. THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, THERE HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF MEETINGS AND IMMENSE AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT ON RICE DENIAL PROGRAM, INCLUDING MEETINGS BY MR COMMANDERS WITH PRESIDENT, SUCH AS ONE TODAY. GVN SEEMS TO BE APPLYING THIS YEAR'S PLAN WITH MUCH GREATER ZEAL AND PURPOSE THAN IN PAST. END COMMENT.

WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE
APPLING

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